



General Assembly

February Session, 2010

**Amendment**

LCO No. 5440

**\*HB0548905440HDO\***

Offered by:

REP. FLEISCHMANN, 18<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. DONOVAN, 84<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. MERRILL, 54<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. BARTLETT, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

REP. MCCRORY, 7<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. MILLER P., 145<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. HOLDER-WINFIELD, 94<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. CANDELARIA, 95<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. GREEN, 1<sup>st</sup> Dist.

REP. CLEMONS, 124<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ROBLES, 6<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. HEWETT, 39<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. SANTIAGO, 130<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. WALKER, 93<sup>rd</sup> Dist.

REP. BUTLER, 72<sup>nd</sup> Dist.

REP. ROJAS, 9<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ROLDAN, 4<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. MORRIS, 140<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. ALDARONDO, 75<sup>th</sup> Dist.

REP. KIRKLEY-BEY, 5<sup>th</sup> Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 5489

File No. 535

Cal. No. 318

**"AN ACT CONCERNING SECONDARY SCHOOL REFORM."**

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the  
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) The Department of  
4 Education shall review and approve proposals for alternate route to  
5 certification programs for school administrators. In order to be  
6 approved, a proposal shall provide that the alternative route to  
7 certification program (1) be provided by a public or independent  
8 institution of higher education, a local or regional board of education,  
9 a regional educational service center or a private, nonprofit teacher or

10 administrator training organization approved by the State Board of  
11 Education; (2) accept only those participants who (A) hold a bachelor's  
12 degree from an institution of higher education accredited by the Board  
13 of Governors of Higher Education or regionally accredited, (B) have at  
14 least forty school months teaching experience, of which at least ten  
15 school months are in a position requiring certification at a public  
16 school, in this state or another state, and (C) are recommended by the  
17 immediate supervisor or district administrator of such person on the  
18 basis of such person's performance; (3) require each participant to (A)  
19 complete a one-year residency that requires such person to serve (i) in  
20 a position requiring an intermediate administrator or supervisor  
21 endorsement, and (ii) in a full-time position for ten school months at a  
22 local or regional board of education in the state under the supervision  
23 of (I) a certified administrator, and (II) a supervisor from an institution  
24 or organization described in subdivision (1) of this subsection, or (B)  
25 have ten school months experience in a full-time position as an  
26 administrator in a public or nonpublic school in another state that is  
27 approved by the appropriate state board of education in such other  
28 state; and (4) meet such other criteria as the departments require.

29 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (d) of section 10-  
30 145b of the general statutes, on and after July 1, 2010, the State Board of  
31 Education, upon receipt of a proper application, shall issue an initial  
32 educator certificate in the certification endorsement area of  
33 administration and supervision, which shall be valid for three years, to  
34 any person who (1) successfully completed the alternate route to  
35 certification program for administrators and superintendents pursuant  
36 to this section, and (2) meets the requirements established in  
37 subsection (b) of section 10-145f of the general statutes.

38 (c) Notwithstanding any regulation adopted by the State Board of  
39 Education pursuant to section 10-145b of the general statutes, any  
40 person who successfully completed the alternate route to certification  
41 program for administrators pursuant to this section and was issued an  
42 initial educator certificate in the endorsement area of administration  
43 and supervision shall obtain a master's degree not later than five years

44 after such person was issued such initial educator certificate. If such  
45 person does not obtain a master's degree in such time period, such  
46 person shall not be eligible for a professional educator certificate.

47 Sec. 2. Section 10-157 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
48 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

49 (a) Any local or regional board of education shall provide for the  
50 supervision of the schools under its control by a superintendent who  
51 shall serve as the chief executive officer of the board. The  
52 superintendent shall have executive authority over the school system  
53 and the responsibility for its supervision. Employment of a  
54 superintendent shall be by election of the board of education. Except as  
55 provided in subsection (b) of this section, no person shall assume the  
56 duties and responsibilities of the superintendent until the board  
57 receives written confirmation from the Commissioner of Education  
58 that the person to be employed is properly certified or has had such  
59 certification waived by the commissioner pursuant to subsection (c) of  
60 this section. The commissioner shall inform any such board, in writing,  
61 of the proper certification, waiver of certification or lack of certification  
62 or waiver of any such person not later than fourteen days after the  
63 name of such person is submitted to the commissioner pursuant to  
64 section 10-226. A majority vote of all members of the board shall be  
65 necessary to an election, and the board shall fix the salary of the  
66 superintendent and the term of office, which shall not exceed three  
67 years. Upon election and notification of employment or reemployment,  
68 the superintendent may request and the board shall provide a written  
69 contract of employment which includes, but not be limited to, the  
70 salary, employment benefits and term of office of such superintendent.  
71 Such superintendent shall, at least three weeks before the annual town  
72 or regional school district meeting, submit to the board a full written  
73 report of the proceedings of such board and of the condition of the  
74 several schools during the school year preceding, with plans and  
75 suggestions for their improvement. The board of education shall  
76 evaluate the performance of the superintendent annually in  
77 accordance with guidelines and criteria mutually determined and

78 agreed to by such board and such superintendent.

79 (b) A local or regional board of education may appoint as acting  
80 superintendent a person who is or is not properly certified for a  
81 specified period of time, not to exceed ninety days, with the approval  
82 of the Commissioner of Education. Such acting superintendent shall  
83 assume all duties of the superintendent for the time specified,  
84 provided such period of time may be extended with the approval of  
85 the commissioner, which he shall grant for good cause shown.

86 (c) The commissioner may, upon request of an employing local or  
87 regional board of education, grant a waiver of certification to a person  
88 (1) who has successfully completed at least three years of experience as  
89 a certified administrator with a superintendent certificate issued by  
90 another state in a public school in another state during the ten-year  
91 period prior to the date of application, or (2) who the commissioner  
92 deems to be exceptionally qualified for the position of superintendent.  
93 In order for the commissioner to find a person exceptionally qualified,  
94 such person shall (1) be an acting superintendent pursuant to  
95 subsection (b) of this section, (2) have worked as a superintendent in  
96 another state for no fewer than fifteen years, and (3) be certified or  
97 have been certified as a superintendent by such other state.

98 Sec. 3. Section 10-10a of the 2010 supplement to the general statutes  
99 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
100 *1, 2010*):

101 (a) As used in this section:

102 (1) "Teacher" means any certified professional employee below the  
103 rank of superintendent employed by a board of education for at least  
104 ninety days in a position requiring a certificate issued by the State  
105 Board of Education;

106 (2) "Teacher preparation program" means a program designed to  
107 qualify an individual for professional certification as an educator  
108 provided by institutions of higher education or other providers

109 approved by the Department of Education, including, but not limited  
110 to, an alternate route to certification program.

111 [(a)] (b) The Department of Education shall develop and implement  
112 a state-wide public school information system. The system shall be  
113 designed for the purpose of establishing a standardized electronic data  
114 collection and reporting protocol that will facilitate compliance with  
115 state and federal reporting requirements, improve school-to-school  
116 and district-to-district information exchanges, and maintain the  
117 confidentiality of individual student and staff data. The initial design  
118 shall focus on student information, provided the system shall be  
119 created to allow for future compatibility with financial, facility and  
120 staff data. The system shall provide for the tracking of the performance  
121 of individual students on each of the state-wide mastery examinations  
122 under section 10-14n in order to allow the department to compare the  
123 progress of the same cohort of students who take each examination  
124 and to better analyze school performance. The department shall assign  
125 a unique student identifier to each student prior to tracking the  
126 performance of a student in the public school information system.

127 (c) On or before July 1, 2013, the department shall expand the state-  
128 wide public school information system as follows:

129 (1) Track and report data relating to student, teacher and school and  
130 district performance growth and make such information available to  
131 local and regional boards of education for use in evaluating  
132 educational performance and growth of teachers and students enrolled  
133 in public schools in the state. Such information shall be collected or  
134 calculated based on information received from local and regional  
135 boards of education and other relevant sources. Such information shall  
136 include, but not be limited to:

137 (A) In addition to performance on state-wide mastery examinations  
138 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, data relating to students shall  
139 include, but not be limited to, (i) the primary language spoken at the  
140 home of a student, (ii) student transcripts, (iii) student attendance and

141 student mobility, and (iv) reliable, valid assessments of a student's  
142 readiness to enter public school at the kindergarten level;

143 (B) Data relating to teachers shall include, but not be limited to, (i)  
144 teacher credentials, such as master's degrees, teacher preparation  
145 programs completed and certification levels and endorsement areas,  
146 (ii) teacher assessments, such as whether a teacher is deemed highly  
147 qualified pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, or  
148 deemed to meet such other designations as may be established by  
149 federal law or regulations for the purposes of tracking the equitable  
150 distribution of instructional staff, (iii) the presence of substitute  
151 teachers in a teacher's classroom, (iv) class size, (v) numbers relating to  
152 absenteeism in a teacher's classroom, and (vi) the presence of a  
153 teacher's aide. The department shall assign a unique teacher identifier  
154 to each teacher prior to collecting such data in the public school  
155 information system;

156 (C) Data relating to schools and districts shall include, but not be  
157 limited to, (i) school population, (ii) annual student graduation rates,  
158 (iii) annual teacher retention rates, (iv) school disciplinary records,  
159 such as data relating to suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary  
160 actions, (v) the percentage of students whose primary language is not  
161 English, (vi) the number of and professional credentials of support  
162 personnel, and (vii) information relating to instructional technology,  
163 such as access to computers.

164 (2) Collect data relating to student enrollment in and graduation  
165 from institutions of higher education for any student who had been  
166 assigned a unique student identifier pursuant to subsection (b) of this  
167 section, provided such data is available.

168 (3) Develop means for access to and data sharing with the data  
169 systems of public institutions of higher education in the state.

170 (d) On or before July 1, 2011, and each year thereafter until July 1,  
171 2013, the Commissioner of Education shall report, in accordance with  
172 the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the

173 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education  
174 on the progress of the department's efforts to expand the state-wide  
175 public school information system pursuant to subsection (c) of this  
176 section. The report shall include a full statement of those data elements  
177 that are currently included in the system and those data elements that  
178 will be added on or before July 1, 2013.

179 [(b)] (e) The system database of student information shall not be  
180 considered a public record for the purposes of section 1-210. Nothing  
181 in this section shall be construed to limit the ability of a full-time  
182 permanent employee of a nonprofit organization that is exempt from  
183 taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,  
184 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United  
185 States, as from time to time amended, and that is organized and  
186 operated for educational purposes, to obtain information in accordance  
187 with the provisions of subsection [(e)] (h) of this section.

188 [(c)] (f) All school districts shall participate in the system, and report  
189 all necessary information required by this section, provided the  
190 department provides for technical assistance and training of school  
191 staff in the use of the system.

192 [(d)] (g) Local and regional boards of education and preschool  
193 programs which receive state or federal funding shall participate, in a  
194 manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, in the state-  
195 wide public school information system described in subsection [(a)] (b)  
196 of this section. Participation for purposes of this subsection shall  
197 include, but not be limited to, reporting on (1) student experiences in  
198 preschool by program type and by numbers of months in each such  
199 program, and (2) the readiness of students entering kindergarten and  
200 student progress in kindergarten. Such reporting shall be done by  
201 October 1, 2007, and annually thereafter.

202 [(e)] (h) On and after August 1, 2009, upon receipt of a written  
203 request to access data maintained under this section by a full-time  
204 permanent employee of a nonprofit organization that is exempt from

205 taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986,  
206 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United  
207 States, as from time to time amended, and that is organized and  
208 operated for educational purposes, the Department of Education shall  
209 provide such data to such requesting party not later than sixty days  
210 after such request, provided such requesting party shall be responsible  
211 for the reasonable cost of such request. The Department of Information  
212 Technology shall monitor the calculation of such fees charged for  
213 access to or copies of such records to ensure that such fees are  
214 reasonable and consistent with those charged by other state agencies.  
215 The Department of Education shall respond to written requests under  
216 this section in the order in which they are received.

217 Sec. 4. Section 10-151b of the general statutes is repealed and the  
218 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

219 (a) The superintendent of each local or regional board of education  
220 shall continuously evaluate or cause to be evaluated each teacher, in  
221 accordance with guidelines established by the State Board of  
222 Education, pursuant to subsection (c) of this section, for the  
223 development of evaluation programs and such other guidelines as may  
224 be established by mutual agreement between the local or regional  
225 board of education and the teachers' representative chosen pursuant to  
226 section 10-153b, continuously evaluate or cause to be evaluated each  
227 teacher. An evaluation pursuant to this subsection shall include, but  
228 need not be limited to, strengths, areas needing improvement, [and]  
229 strategies for improvement and multiple indicators of student  
230 academic growth. Claims of failure to follow the established  
231 procedures of such evaluation programs shall be subject to the  
232 grievance procedure in collective bargaining agreements negotiated  
233 subsequent to July 1, 2004. The superintendent shall report the status  
234 of teacher evaluations to the local or regional board of education on or  
235 before June first of each year. For purposes of this section, the term  
236 "teacher" shall include each professional employee of a board of  
237 education, below the rank of superintendent, who holds a certificate or  
238 permit issued by the State Board of Education.



239 (b) Each local and regional board of education shall develop and  
240 implement teacher evaluation programs consistent with guidelines  
241 established by the State Board of Education, pursuant to subsection (c)  
242 of this section, and consistent with the plan developed in accordance  
243 with the provisions of subsection (b) of section 10-220a.

244 (c) On or before July 1, 2013, the State Board of Education shall  
245 adopt, in consultation with the Performance Evaluation Advisory  
246 Council established pursuant to section 5 of this act, guidelines for a  
247 model teacher evaluation program. Such guidelines shall provide  
248 guidance on the use of multiple indicators of student academic growth  
249 in teacher evaluations. Such guidelines shall include, but not be limited  
250 to: (1) Methods for assessing student academic growth; (2) a  
251 consideration of control factors tracked by the state-wide public school  
252 information system, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-10a, as  
253 amended by this act, that may influence teacher performance ratings,  
254 including, but not limited to, student characteristics, student  
255 attendance and student mobility; and (3) minimum requirements for  
256 teacher evaluation instruments and procedures.

257 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) There is established a  
258 Performance Evaluation Advisory Council within the Department of  
259 Education. Membership of the council shall consist of: (1) The  
260 Commissioners of Education and Higher Education, or their designees,  
261 (2) one representative from each of the following associations,  
262 designated by the association, the Connecticut Association of Boards of  
263 Education, the Connecticut Association of Public School  
264 Superintendents, Connecticut Federation of School Administrators, the  
265 Connecticut Education Association and the American Federation of  
266 Teachers-Connecticut, and (3) persons selected by the Commissioner  
267 of Education who shall include, but not be limited to, teachers, persons  
268 with expertise in performance evaluation processes and systems, and  
269 any other person the commissioner deems appropriate.

270 (b) The council shall be responsible for (1) assisting the State Board  
271 of Education in the development and implementation of the teacher

272 evaluation guidelines, pursuant to subsection (c) of section 10-151b of  
273 the general statutes, as amended by this act, and (2) the data collection  
274 and evaluation support system, pursuant to subsection (c) of section  
275 10-10a of the general statutes, as amended by this act. The council shall  
276 meet at least quarterly.

277       Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) A local or regional board of  
278 education for a school district identified as a priority school district,  
279 pursuant to section 10-266p of the general statutes, may, through  
280 agreement with the organizations designated or elected as the  
281 exclusive representatives of the teachers' and administrators' units, as  
282 defined in section 10-153b of the general statutes, convert an existing  
283 public school into an innovation school or establish a new school as an  
284 innovation school, in accordance with the provisions of this section, for  
285 purposes of improving school performance and student achievement.  
286 For purposes of this section, an innovation school is a school in which:  
287 (1) Faculty and district leadership are responsible for developing an  
288 innovation plan, as described in subsection (b) of this section, under  
289 which the school operates and the administrators of the school are  
290 responsible for meeting the terms of the innovation plan; or (2) an  
291 external partner is responsible for developing the innovation plan, as  
292 described in subsection (b) of this section, under which the school  
293 operates and the external partner is responsible for meeting the terms  
294 of the innovation plan. For purposes of this section, an external partner  
295 may include a public or private institution of higher education,  
296 nonprofit charter school operators, educational collaboratives or a  
297 consortia authorized by the Commissioner of Education that may  
298 include public or private institutions of higher education, parents, the  
299 organizations designated or elected as the exclusive representatives of  
300 the teachers' and administrators' units, as defined in said section 10-  
301 153b, superintendents or boards of education. The local or regional  
302 board of education shall decide whether the faculty and district  
303 leadership or an external partner is responsible for developing the  
304 innovation plan.

305       (b) (1) An innovation school established under this section shall

306 operate according to an innovation plan. Such plan shall articulate the  
307 areas of autonomy and flexibility in curriculum, budget, school  
308 schedule and calendar, school district policies and procedures,  
309 professional development, and staffing policies and procedures,  
310 including waivers from or modifications to contracts or collective  
311 bargaining agreements. Such innovation plan shall be developed by  
312 the faculty and district leadership or an external partner by means of  
313 an innovation plan committee. Membership of the innovation plan  
314 committee developed by (A) faculty and district leadership shall  
315 consist of at least nine members, but not more than eleven members, (i)  
316 five of whom shall be selected by the local or regional board of  
317 education and shall include (I) the superintendent of schools for the  
318 school district, or his or her designee; (II) a member of the local or  
319 regional board of education, or his or her designee; (III) two parents  
320 who have one or more children enrolled in the school, or in the case of  
321 a new school, parents from the district; and (IV) the principal of the  
322 school, or, in the case of a new school and where a principal has not  
323 yet been hired, a principal from the school district in which the new  
324 school is located, (ii) two of whom shall be certified teachers of the  
325 school appointed by the exclusive bargaining representative of the  
326 teachers' unit chosen pursuant to section 10-153b of the general  
327 statutes, or, in the case of a new school and where no certified teachers  
328 have yet been hired, two certified teachers appointed by the exclusive  
329 bargaining representative of the teachers' unit chosen pursuant to  
330 section 10-153b of the general statutes, and (iii) not more than four of  
331 whom the local or regional board of education deems appropriate; (B)  
332 an external partner shall consist of at least nine members, but not more  
333 than eleven members, (i) seven of whom shall be selected by the local  
334 or regional board of education and shall include (I) the superintendent  
335 of schools for the school district, or his or her designee; (II) a member  
336 of the local or regional board of education, or his or her designee; (III)  
337 two parents who have one or more children enrolled in the school, or,  
338 in the case of a new school, parents from the district; (IV) the principal  
339 of the school, or, in the case of a new school and where a principal has  
340 not yet been hired, a principal from the school district in which the

341 new school is located; and (V) two of whom shall represent the  
342 external partner, (ii) two of whom shall be certified teachers of the  
343 school appointed by the exclusive bargaining representative of the  
344 teachers' unit chosen pursuant to section 10-153b of the general  
345 statutes, or, in the case of a new school and where no certified teachers  
346 have yet been hired, two certified teachers appointed by the exclusive  
347 bargaining representative of the teachers' unit chosen pursuant to  
348 section 10-153b of the general statutes, and (iii) not more than two of  
349 whom the local or regional board of education deems appropriate. A  
350 majority vote of the innovation plan committee shall be required for  
351 approval and implementation of the innovation plan.

352 (2) The innovation plan shall include, but not be limited to: (A) A  
353 curriculum plan that includes a detailed description of the curriculum  
354 and related programs for the proposed school and how the curriculum  
355 is expected to improve school performance and student achievement;  
356 (B) a budget plan, that includes a detailed description of how funds  
357 shall be used in the proposed school to support school performance  
358 and student achievement that is or may be different than how funds  
359 are used in other public schools in the district; (C) a school schedule  
360 plan that includes a detailed description of the ways the program or  
361 calendar of the proposed school may be enhanced or expanded; (D) a  
362 staffing plan, including any proposed waivers or modifications of  
363 collective bargaining agreements, subject to agreement with the  
364 exclusive bargaining representative for the certified employees  
365 employed at the school, chosen pursuant to section 10-153b of the  
366 general statutes, and in accordance with the provisions of subsection  
367 (c) of this section; (E) a policies and procedures plan that includes a  
368 detailed description of the unique operational policies and procedures  
369 to be used by the proposed school and how the procedures will  
370 support school performance and student achievement; and (F) a  
371 professional development plan that includes a detailed description of  
372 how the school may provide professional development to its  
373 administrators, teachers and other staff.

374 (3) In order to assess the proposed school across multiple measures

375 of school performance and student success, the innovation plan shall  
376 include measurable annual goals, including, but not limited to, goals  
377 relating to the following: (A) Student attendance; (B) student safety  
378 and discipline; (C) student promotion and graduation and dropout  
379 rates; (D) student performance on the state-wide mastery examination,  
380 pursuant to section 10-14n of the general statutes; (E) progress in areas  
381 of academic underperformance; (F) progress among subgroups of  
382 students, including low-income students, limited English-proficient  
383 students and students receiving special education; and (G) reduction  
384 of achievement gaps among different groups of students.

385 (c) Nothing in this section shall alter the collective bargaining  
386 agreements applicable to the administrators, teachers and staff in the  
387 school, subject to the provisions of sections 10-153a to 10-153n,  
388 inclusive, of the general statutes, and such collective bargaining  
389 agreements shall be considered to be in operation at an innovation  
390 school, except to the extent the provisions are waived or modified in  
391 the innovation plan and agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the members  
392 of the exclusive bargaining representative employed or to be employed  
393 at the innovation school.

394 (d) Innovation schools authorized under this section shall be  
395 evaluated annually by the superintendent of schools for the school  
396 district. The superintendent shall submit the evaluation to the local or  
397 regional board of education and the Commissioner of Education. The  
398 evaluation shall determine whether the school has met the annual  
399 goals outlined in the innovation plan for the school and assess the  
400 implementation of the innovation plan at the school. The  
401 superintendent may amend or suspend one or more components of the  
402 innovation plan if the superintendent determines, after one year, an  
403 amendment is necessary because of subsequent changes in the school  
404 district that affect one or more components of such innovation plan. If  
405 the superintendent determines that the school has substantially failed  
406 to meet the goals outlined in the innovation plan, the local or regional  
407 board of education may: (A) Amend one or more components of the  
408 innovation plan; (B) suspend one or more components of the

409 innovation plan; or (C) terminate the authorization of the school,  
410 provided the amending or suspension shall not take place before the  
411 completion of the second full year of the operation of the school and  
412 the termination shall not take place before the completion of the third  
413 full year of the operation of the school. Any amendment to or  
414 suspension of any component of the innovation plan that changes the  
415 contract of employment for any teacher employed at the school shall  
416 be approved by a two-thirds vote of the members of the exclusive  
417 bargaining representative for the teachers employed at the school prior  
418 to any such amendment or suspension of the innovation plan.

419 (e) The local or regional board of education shall allow a student  
420 who is enrolled in a school at the time it is established as an innovation  
421 school pursuant to this section to remain enrolled in the school if the  
422 student and the student's parents choose to have the student remain.

423 Sec. 7. Section 10-223e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
424 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

425 (a) In conformance with the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110,  
426 the Commissioner of Education shall prepare a state-wide education  
427 accountability plan, consistent with federal law and regulation. Such  
428 plan shall identify the schools and districts in need of improvement,  
429 require the development and implementation of improvement plans  
430 and utilize rewards and consequences.

431 (b) Public schools identified by the State Board of Education  
432 pursuant to section 10-223b of the general statutes, revision of 1958,  
433 revised to January 1, 2001, as schools in need of improvement shall: (1)  
434 Continue to be identified as schools in need of improvement, and  
435 continue to operate under school improvement plans developed  
436 pursuant to said section 10-223b through June 30, 2004; (2) on or before  
437 February 1, 2003, be evaluated by the local board of education and  
438 determined to be making sufficient or insufficient progress; (3) if found  
439 to be making insufficient progress by a local board of education, be  
440 subject to a new remediation and organization plan developed by the

441 local board of education; (4) continue to be eligible for available federal  
442 or state aid; (5) beginning in February, 2003, be monitored by the  
443 Department of Education for adequate yearly progress, as defined in  
444 the state accountability plan prepared in accordance with subsection  
445 (a) of this section; and (6) be subject to rewards and consequences as  
446 defined in said plan.

447 (c) (1) Any school or school district identified as in need of  
448 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and requiring  
449 corrective action pursuant to the requirements of the No Child Left  
450 Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, shall be designated and listed as a low  
451 achieving school or school district and shall be subject to intensified  
452 supervision and direction by the State Board of Education.

453 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this title or any regulation  
454 adopted pursuant to said statutes, except as provided in subdivision  
455 (3) of this subsection, in carrying out the provisions of subdivision (1)  
456 of this subsection, the State Board of Education shall take any of the  
457 following actions to improve student performance and remove the  
458 school or district from the list of schools or districts designated and  
459 listed as a low achieving school or district pursuant to said subdivision  
460 (1), and to address other needs of the school or district: (A) Require an  
461 operations audit to identify possible programmatic savings and an  
462 instructional audit to identify any deficits in curriculum and  
463 instruction or in the learning environment of the school or district; (B)  
464 require the local or regional board of education for such school or  
465 district to use state and federal funds for critical needs, as directed by  
466 the State Board of Education; (C) provide incentives to attract highly  
467 qualified teachers and principals; (D) direct the transfer and  
468 assignment of teachers and principals; (E) require additional training  
469 and technical assistance for parents and guardians of children  
470 attending the school or a school in the district and for teachers,  
471 principals, and central office staff members hired by the district; (F)  
472 require the local or regional board of education for the school or  
473 district to implement model curriculum, including, but not limited to,  
474 recommended textbooks, materials and supplies approved by the

475 Department of Education; (G) identify schools for reconstitution, as  
476 may be phased in by the commissioner, as state or local charter  
477 schools, schools established pursuant to section 10-74g, innovation  
478 schools established pursuant to section 6 of this act, or schools based  
479 on other models for school improvement, or for management by an  
480 entity other than the local or regional board of education for the  
481 district in which the school is located; (H) direct the local or regional  
482 board of education for the school or district to develop and implement  
483 a plan addressing deficits in achievement and in the learning  
484 environment as recommended in the instructional audit; (I) assign a  
485 technical assistance team to the school or district to guide school or  
486 district initiatives and report progress to the Commissioner of  
487 Education; (J) establish instructional and learning environment  
488 benchmarks for the school or district to meet as it progresses toward  
489 removal from the list of low achieving schools or districts; (K) provide  
490 funding to any proximate district to a district designated as a low  
491 achieving school district so that students in a low achieving district  
492 may attend public school in a neighboring district; (L) direct the  
493 establishment of learning academies within schools that require  
494 continuous monitoring of student performance by teacher groups; (M)  
495 require local and regional boards of education to (i) undergo training  
496 to improve their operational efficiency and effectiveness as leaders of  
497 their districts' improvement plans, and (ii) submit an annual action  
498 plan to the Commissioner of Education outlining how, when and in  
499 what manner their effectiveness shall be monitored; or (N) any  
500 combination of the actions described in this subdivision or similar,  
501 closely related actions.

502 (3) If a directive of the State Board of Education pursuant to  
503 subparagraph (C), (D), (E), (G) or (L) of subdivision (2) of this  
504 subsection or a directive to implement a plan pursuant to  
505 subparagraph (H) of said subdivision affects working conditions, such  
506 directive shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of  
507 sections 10-153a to 10-153n, inclusive.

508 (4) The Comptroller shall, pursuant to the provisions of section 10-



509 262i, withhold any grant funds that a town is otherwise required to  
510 appropriate to a local or regional board of education due to low  
511 academic achievement in the school district pursuant to section 10-  
512 262h. Said funds shall be transferred to the Department of Education  
513 and shall be expended by the department on behalf of the identified  
514 school district. Said funds shall be used to implement the provisions of  
515 subdivision (2) of this subsection and to offset such other local  
516 education costs that the Commissioner of Education deems  
517 appropriate to achieve school improvements. These funds shall be  
518 awarded by the commissioner to the local or regional board of  
519 education for such identified school district upon condition that said  
520 funds shall be spent in accordance with the directives of the  
521 commissioner.

522 (d) The State Board of Education shall monitor the progress of each  
523 school or district designated as a low achieving school or district  
524 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section and provide  
525 notice to the local or regional board of education for each such school  
526 or district of the school or district's progress toward meeting the  
527 benchmarks established by the State Board of Education pursuant to  
528 subsection (c) of this section. If a district fails to make acceptable  
529 progress toward meeting such benchmarks established by the State  
530 Board of Education and fails to make adequate yearly progress  
531 pursuant to the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L.  
532 107-110, for two consecutive years while designated as a low achieving  
533 school district, the State Board of Education, after consultation with the  
534 Governor and chief elected official or officials of the district, may (1)  
535 request that the General Assembly enact legislation authorizing that  
536 control of the district be reassigned to the State Board of Education or  
537 other authorized entity, or (2) notwithstanding the provisions of  
538 chapter 146, any special act, charter or ordinance, grant the  
539 Commissioner of Education the authority to reconstitute the local or  
540 regional board of education for such school district in accordance with  
541 the provisions of subsection (g) of this section.

542 (e) Any school district or elementary school after two successive

543 years of failing to make adequate yearly progress shall be designated  
544 as a low achieving school district or school and shall be evaluated by  
545 the Commissioner of Education. After such evaluation, the  
546 commissioner may require that such school district or school provide  
547 full-day kindergarten classes, summer school, extended school day,  
548 weekend classes, tutorial assistance to its students or professional  
549 development to its administrators, principals, teachers and  
550 paraprofessional teacher aides if (1) on any subpart of the third grade  
551 state-wide mastery examination, thirty per cent or more of the students  
552 in any subgroup, as defined by the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-  
553 110, do not achieve the level of proficiency or higher, or (2) the  
554 commissioner determines that it would be in the best educational  
555 interests of the school or the school district to have any of these  
556 programs. In ordering any educational program authorized by this  
557 subsection, the commissioner may limit the offering of the program to  
558 the subgroup of students that have failed to achieve proficiency as  
559 determined by this subsection, those in particular grades or those who  
560 are otherwise at substantial risk of educational failure. The costs of  
561 instituting the ordered educational programs shall be borne by the  
562 identified low achieving school district or the school district in which  
563 an identified low achieving school is located. The commissioner shall  
564 not order an educational program that costs more to implement than  
565 the total increase in the amount of the grant that a town receives  
566 pursuant to section 10-262i in any fiscal year above the prior fiscal  
567 year.

568 (f) The Commissioner of Education shall conduct a study, within the  
569 limits of the capacity of the Department of Education to perform such  
570 study, of academic achievement of individual students over time as  
571 measured by performance on the state-wide mastery examination in  
572 grades three to eight, inclusive. If this study evidences a pattern of  
573 continuous and substantial growth in educational performance on said  
574 examinations for individual students, then the commissioner may  
575 determine that the school district or elementary school shall not be  
576 subject to the requirements of subsection (e) of this section, but shall

577 still comply with the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act,  
578 P.L. 107-110, if applicable.

579 (g) The State Board of Education may authorize the Commissioner  
580 of Education to reconstitute a local or regional board of education  
581 pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (d) of this section for a period  
582 of not more than five years. The board shall not grant such authority to  
583 the commissioner unless the board has required the local or regional  
584 board of education to complete the training described in subparagraph  
585 (M) of subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section. Upon such  
586 authorization by the board, the commissioner shall terminate the  
587 existing local or regional board of education and appoint the members  
588 of a new local or regional board of education for the school district.  
589 Such appointed members may include members of the board of  
590 education that was terminated. The terms of the members of the new  
591 board of education shall be three years. The department of education  
592 shall offer training to the members of the new board of education. The  
593 new board of education shall annually report to the commissioner  
594 regarding the district's progress toward meeting the benchmarks  
595 established by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (c)  
596 of this section and making adequate yearly progress, as defined in the  
597 state accountability plan prepared in accordance with subsection (a) of  
598 this section. If the district fails to show adequate improvement, as  
599 determined by the State Board of Education, after three years, the  
600 commissioner may reappoint the members of the new board of  
601 education or appoint new members to such board of education for  
602 terms of two years.

603 Sec. 8. Section 9-185 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
604 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

605 Unless otherwise provided by special act or charter, (1) assessors, (2)  
606 members of boards of assessment appeals, (3) selectmen, (4) town  
607 clerks, (5) town treasurers, (6) collectors of taxes, (7) constables, (8)  
608 registrars of voters, (9) subject to the provisions of subsection (g) of  
609 section 10-223e, as amended by this act, members of boards of

610 education, and (10) library directors shall be elected, provided any  
611 town may, by ordinance, provide for the appointment, by its chief  
612 executive authority, of [(1)] (A) a constable or constables in lieu of  
613 constables to be elected under section 9-200 or [(2)] (B) a town clerk,  
614 town treasurer or collector of taxes in lieu of the election of such  
615 officers as provided in section 9-189. Unless otherwise provided by  
616 special act or charter, all other town officers shall be appointed as  
617 provided by law and, if no other provision for their appointment is  
618 made by law, then by [(A)] (i) the chief executive officer of such  
619 municipality, or [(B)] (ii) where the legislative body is a town meeting,  
620 by the board of selectmen, or [(C)] (iii) by such other appointing  
621 authority as a town may by ordinance provide, and except that, if a  
622 board of finance is established under the provisions of section 7-340,  
623 the members thereof shall be elected as provided in section 9-202 and  
624 except that assessors may be elected or appointed under the provisions  
625 of section 9-198. Any town may, by a vote of its legislative body,  
626 determine the number of its officers and prescribe the mode by which  
627 they shall be voted for at subsequent elections.

628 Sec. 9. Section 10-183v of the general statutes is repealed and the  
629 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

630 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a [former]  
631 teacher receiving retirement benefits from the system may not be  
632 employed in a teaching position receiving compensation paid out of  
633 public money appropriated for school purposes except that such  
634 [former] teacher may be employed [temporarily] in such a position and  
635 receive no more than forty-five per cent of the maximum salary level  
636 for the assigned position. Any [former] teacher who receives in excess  
637 of such amount shall reimburse the board for the amount of such  
638 excess. [Temporary employment means employment for less than a  
639 school year.] Notice of such employment shall be sent [semi-annually  
640 on January thirty-first and June thirtieth] to the board by the  
641 [employing officials] employer and by the retired teacher at the time of  
642 hire and at the end of each assignment.

643 (b) A [former] teacher receiving retirement benefits from the system  
644 may be reemployed for up to one full school year by a local board of  
645 education, the State Board of Education or by any constituent unit of  
646 the state system of higher education in a position (1) designated by the  
647 Commissioner of Education as a subject shortage area, or (2) at a  
648 school located in a school district identified as a priority school district,  
649 pursuant to section 10-266p, for the school year in which the [former]  
650 teacher is being employed. Notice of such reemployment shall be sent  
651 to the board by the employer and by the retired teacher at the time of  
652 hire and at the end of the assignment. Such [employment may be for  
653 up to one full school year but] reemployment may [, with prior  
654 approval by the board,] be extended for an additional school year, [.   
655 Such] provided the local board of education (A) submits a written  
656 request for approval [shall be made in writing] to the Teachers'  
657 Retirement Board, [and certified by the local board of education] (B)  
658 certifies that no qualified candidates are available prior to the  
659 reemployment of such [former] teacher, and [shall include a statement  
660 indicating] (C) indicates the type of assignment to be performed, the  
661 anticipated date of rehire and the expected duration of the assignment.

662 (c) The employment of a [former] teacher under subsection (b) of  
663 this section shall not be considered as service qualifying for continuing  
664 contract status under section 10-151, as amended by this act, and the  
665 salary of such teacher shall be fixed at an amount at least equal to that  
666 paid other teachers in the same school system with similar training  
667 and experience for the same type of service. Upon approval by the  
668 board of such employment, such [former] teacher shall be eligible for  
669 the same health insurance benefits provided to active teachers  
670 employed by such school system. No benefits shall be paid under  
671 section 10-183t, while such [former] teacher is employed by such  
672 system.

673 (d) No person shall be entitled to survivor's benefits under  
674 subsection (f) of section 10-183f as a result of reemployment under this  
675 section.

676 (e) The same option plan of retirement benefits in effect prior to  
677 reemployment shall continue for a reemployed teacher during  
678 reemployment.

679 (f) The provisions of this section in effect on June 30, 2003, revision  
680 of 1958, revised to January 1, 2003, shall be applicable to any person  
681 making contributions to the Teachers' Retirement System on June 30,  
682 2003, in accordance with said provisions.

683 Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 10-151 of the general statutes is  
684 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
685 *1, 2010*):

686 (a) For the purposes of this section:

687 (1) The term "board of education" shall mean a local or regional  
688 board of education or the board of trustees of an incorporated or  
689 endowed high school or academy approved pursuant to section 10-34,  
690 which is located in this state;

691 (2) The term "teacher" shall include each certified professional  
692 employee below the rank of superintendent employed by a board of  
693 education for at least ninety days in a position requiring a certificate  
694 issued by the State Board of Education;

695 (3) The term "continuous employment" means that time during  
696 which the teacher is employed without any break in employment as a  
697 teacher for the same board of education;

698 (4) The term "full-time employment" means a teacher's employment  
699 in a position at a salary rate of fifty per cent or more of the salary rate  
700 of such teacher in such position if such position were full-time;

701 (5) The term "part-time employment" means a teacher's employment  
702 in a position at a salary rate of less than fifty per cent of the salary rate  
703 of such teacher in such position, if such position were full-time;

704 (6) The term "tenure" means:

705 (A) The completion of thirty school months of full-time continuous  
706 employment for the same board of education for teachers initially  
707 hired prior to July 1, 1996; and forty such school months for teachers  
708 initially hired on or after said date provided the superintendent offers  
709 the teacher a contract to return for the following school year. For  
710 purposes of calculating continuous employment towards tenure, the  
711 following shall apply: (i) For a teacher who has not attained tenure,  
712 two school months of part-time continuous employment by such  
713 teacher shall equal one school month of full-time continuous  
714 employment except, for a teacher employed in a part-time position at a  
715 salary rate of less than twenty-five per cent of the salary rate of a  
716 teacher in such position, if such position were full-time, three school  
717 months of part-time continuous employment shall equal one school  
718 month of full-time continuous employment; (ii) a teacher who has not  
719 attained tenure shall not count layoff time towards tenure, except that  
720 if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education within  
721 five calendar years of the layoff, such teacher may count the previous  
722 continuous employment immediately prior to the layoff towards  
723 tenure; and (iii) a teacher who has not attained tenure shall not count  
724 authorized leave time towards tenure if such time exceeds ninety  
725 student school days in any one school year, provided only the student  
726 school days worked that year by such teacher shall count towards  
727 tenure and shall be computed on the basis of eighteen student school  
728 days or the greater fraction thereof equaling one school month.

729 (B) For a teacher who has attained tenure prior to layoff, tenure shall  
730 resume if such teacher is reemployed by the same board of education  
731 within five calendar years of the layoff.

732 (C) Except as provided in [subparagraph (B)] subparagraphs (B) and  
733 (D) of this subdivision, any teacher who has attained tenure with any  
734 one board of education and whose employment with such board ends  
735 for any reason and who is reemployed by such board or is  
736 subsequently employed by any other board, shall attain tenure after  
737 completion of twenty school months of continuous employment. The  
738 provisions of this subparagraph shall not apply if, (i) prior to

739 completion of the twentieth school month following commencement of  
740 employment by such board, such teacher has been notified in writing  
741 that his or her contract will not be renewed for the following school  
742 year or (ii) for a period of five or more calendar years immediately  
743 prior to such subsequent employment, such teacher has not been  
744 employed by any board of education.

745 (D) Any certified teacher or administrator employed by a local or  
746 regional board of education for a school district identified as a priority  
747 school district pursuant to section 10-266p may attain tenure after ten  
748 months of employment in such priority school district, if such certified  
749 teacher or administrator previously attained tenure with another local  
750 or regional board of education in this state or another state.

751 (7) The term "school month" means any calendar month other than  
752 July or August in which a teacher is employed as a teacher at least one-  
753 half of the student school days.

754 Sec. 11. Section 10-66p of the general statutes is repealed and the  
755 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

756 Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 4-98, 4-212 to 4-219,  
757 inclusive, 4a-51 and 4a-57, the Commissioner of Education may  
758 allocate funds to allow regional educational service centers and state  
759 education organizations to provide professional development services,  
760 technical assistance and evaluation activities to local and regional  
761 boards of education, state charter schools, regional vocational-technical  
762 schools, school readiness providers and other educational entities, as  
763 determined by the commissioner. Regional educational service centers  
764 and state education organizations shall expend such funds in  
765 accordance with procedures and conditions prescribed by the  
766 commissioner. For purposes of this section, state education  
767 organizations may include, but not be limited to, organizations or  
768 associations representing superintendents, boards of education and  
769 elementary and secondary schools.

770 Sec. 12. Section 10-66aa of the general statutes is repealed and the



771 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

772 As used in sections 10-66aa to 10-66ff, inclusive, as amended by this  
773 act, and sections 10-66hh to 10-66kk, inclusive, as amended by this act:

774 (1) "Charter school" means a public, nonsectarian school which is  
775 (A) established under a charter granted pursuant to section 10-66bb, as  
776 amended by this act, (B) organized as a nonprofit entity under state  
777 law, (C) a public agency for purposes of the Freedom of Information  
778 Act, as defined in section 1-200, and (D) operated independently of any  
779 local or regional board of education in accordance with the terms of its  
780 charter and the provisions of sections 10-66aa to 10-66ff, inclusive, as  
781 amended by this act, provided no member or employee of a governing  
782 council of a charter school shall have a personal or financial interest in  
783 the assets, real or personal, of the school;

784 (2) "Local charter school" means a public school or part of a public  
785 school that is converted into a charter school and is approved by the  
786 local or regional board of education of the school district in which it is  
787 located and by the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (e)  
788 of section 10-66bb, as amended by this act; [and]

789 (3) "State charter school" means a new public school approved by  
790 the State Board of Education pursuant to subsection (f) of section 10-  
791 66bb, as amended by this act;

792 (4) "Charter management organization" means any entity that a  
793 charter school contracts with for educational design, implementation  
794 or whole school management services; and

795 (5) "Whole school management services" means the financial,  
796 business, operational and administrative functions for a school.

797 Sec. 13. Section 10-66bb of the general statutes is repealed and the  
798 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

799 (a) On and after July 1, 1997, the State Board of Education may grant  
800 [ within available appropriations,] charters for local and state charter

801 schools in accordance with this section.

802 (b) Any person, association, corporation, organization or other  
803 entity, public or independent institution of higher education, local or  
804 regional board of education or two or more boards of education  
805 cooperatively, or regional educational service center may apply to the  
806 Commissioner of Education, at such time and in such manner as the  
807 commissioner prescribes, to establish a charter school, provided no  
808 nonpublic elementary or secondary school may be established as a  
809 charter school and no parent or group of parents providing home  
810 instruction may establish a charter school for such instruction.

811 (c) The State Board of Education shall review, annually, all  
812 applications and grant charters in accordance with subsection (f) of  
813 this section. (1) Except as provided for in subdivision (2) of this  
814 subsection, no state charter school shall enroll (A) (i) more than two  
815 hundred fifty students, or (ii) in the case of a kindergarten to grade  
816 eight, inclusive, school, more than three hundred students, or (B)  
817 twenty-five per cent of the enrollment of the school district in which  
818 the state charter school is to be located, whichever is less. (2) In the  
819 case of a state charter school found by the State Board of Education to  
820 have a demonstrated record of achievement, [such school] said board  
821 [may] shall, upon application by such school to [and approval by] said  
822 board, [enroll up to eighty-five students per grade, if within available  
823 appropriations] waive the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
824 subsection for such school. The State Board of Education shall give  
825 preference to applicants for charter schools that will serve students  
826 who reside in a priority school district pursuant to section 10-266p or  
827 in a district in which seventy-five per cent or more of the enrolled  
828 students are members of racial or ethnic minorities and to applicants  
829 for state charter schools that will be located at a work-site or that are  
830 institutions of higher education. In determining whether to grant a  
831 charter, the State Board of Education shall consider the effect of the  
832 proposed charter school on the reduction of racial, ethnic and  
833 economic isolation in the region in which it is to be located, the  
834 regional distribution of charter schools in the state and the potential of

835 over-concentration of charter schools within a school district or in  
836 contiguous school districts.

837 (d) Applications pursuant to this section shall include a description  
838 of: (1) The mission, purpose and any specialized focus of the proposed  
839 charter school; (2) the interest in the community for the establishment  
840 of the charter school; (3) the school governance and procedures for the  
841 establishment of a governing council that (A) includes (i) teachers and  
842 parents and guardians of students enrolled in the school, and (ii) the  
843 chairperson of the local or regional board of education of the town in  
844 which the charter school is located and which has jurisdiction over a  
845 school that resembles the approximate grade configuration of the  
846 charter school, or the designee of such chairperson, provided such  
847 designee is a member of the board of education or the superintendent  
848 of schools for the school district, and (B) is responsible for the  
849 oversight of charter school operations, provided no member or  
850 employee of the governing council may have a personal or financial  
851 interest in the assets, real or personal, of the school; (4) the financial  
852 plan for operation of the school, provided no application fees or other  
853 fees for attendance, except as provided in this section, may be charged;  
854 (5) the educational program, instructional methodology and services to  
855 be offered to students; (6) the number and qualifications of teachers  
856 and administrators to be employed in the school; (7) the organization  
857 of the school in terms of the ages or grades to be taught and the total  
858 estimated enrollment of the school; (8) the student admission criteria  
859 and procedures to (A) ensure effective public information, (B) ensure  
860 open access on a space available basis, (C) promote a diverse student  
861 body, and (D) ensure that the school complies with the provisions of  
862 section 10-15c and that it does not discriminate on the basis of  
863 disability, athletic performance or proficiency in the English language,  
864 provided the school may limit enrollment to a particular grade level or  
865 specialized educational focus and, if there is not space available for all  
866 students seeking enrollment, the school may give preference to siblings  
867 but shall otherwise determine enrollment by a lottery; (9) a means to  
868 assess student performance that includes participation in state-wide

869 mastery examinations pursuant to chapter 163c; (10) procedures for  
870 teacher evaluation and professional development for teachers and  
871 administrators; (11) the provision of school facilities, pupil  
872 transportation and student health and welfare services; (12)  
873 procedures to encourage involvement by parents and guardians of  
874 enrolled students in student learning, school activities and school  
875 decision-making; (13) document efforts to increase the racial and  
876 ethnic diversity of staff; and (14) a five-year plan to sustain the  
877 maintenance and operation of the school. Subject to the provisions of  
878 subsection (b) of section 10-66dd, as amended by this act, an  
879 application may include, or a charter school may file, requests to waive  
880 provisions of the general statutes and regulations not required by  
881 sections 10-66aa to 10-66ff, inclusive, as amended by this act, and  
882 which are within the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education.

883 (e) An application for the establishment of a local charter school  
884 shall be submitted to the local or regional board of education of the  
885 school district in which the local charter school is to be located for  
886 approval pursuant to this subsection. The local or regional board of  
887 education shall: (1) Review the application; (2) hold a public hearing in  
888 the school district on such application; (3) survey teachers and parents  
889 in the school district to determine if there is sufficient interest in the  
890 establishment and operation of the local charter school; and (4) vote on  
891 a complete application not later than sixty days after the date of receipt  
892 of such application. Such board of education may approve the  
893 application by a majority vote of the members of the board present and  
894 voting at a regular or special meeting of the board called for such  
895 purpose. If the application is approved, the board shall forward the  
896 application to the State Board of Education. The State Board of  
897 Education shall vote on the application not later than seventy-five days  
898 after the date of receipt of such application. Subject to the provisions of  
899 subsection (c) of this section, the State Board of Education may  
900 approve the application and grant the charter for the local charter  
901 school or reject such application by a majority vote of the members of  
902 the state board present and voting at a regular or special meeting of

903 the state board called for such purpose. The State Board of Education  
904 may condition the opening of such school on the school's meeting  
905 certain conditions determined by the Commissioner of Education to be  
906 necessary and may authorize the commissioner to release the charter  
907 when the commissioner determines such conditions are met. The state  
908 board may grant the charter for the local charter school for a period of  
909 time of up to five years and may allow the applicant to delay its  
910 opening for a period of up to one school year in order for the applicant  
911 to fully prepare to provide appropriate instructional services.

912 (f) An application for the establishment of a state charter school  
913 shall be (1) submitted to the State Board of Education for approval in  
914 accordance with the provisions of this subsection, and (2) filed with the  
915 local or regional board of education in the school district in which the  
916 charter school is to be located. The state board shall: (A) Review such  
917 application; (B) hold a public hearing on such application in the school  
918 district in which such state charter school is to be located; (C) solicit  
919 and review comments on the application from the local or regional  
920 board of education for the school district in which such charter school  
921 is to be located and from the local or regional boards of education for  
922 school districts that are contiguous to the district in which such school  
923 is to be located; and (D) vote on a complete application not later than  
924 seventy-five days after the date of receipt of such application. The State  
925 Board of Education may approve an application and grant the charter  
926 for the state charter school by a majority vote of the members of the  
927 state board present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the  
928 state board called for such purpose. The State Board of Education may  
929 condition the opening of such school on the school's meeting certain  
930 conditions determined by the Commissioner of Education to be  
931 necessary and may authorize the commissioner to release the charter  
932 when the commissioner determines such conditions are met. Charters  
933 shall be granted for a period of time of up to five years and may allow  
934 the applicant to delay its opening for a period of up to one school year  
935 in order for the applicant to fully prepare to provide appropriate  
936 instructional services.

937 (g) Charters may be renewed, upon application, in accordance with  
938 the provisions of this section for the granting of such charters. Upon  
939 application for such renewal, the State Board of Education may  
940 commission an independent appraisal of the performance of the  
941 charter school that includes, but is not limited to, an evaluation of the  
942 school's compliance with the provisions of this section. The State Board  
943 of Education shall consider the results of any such appraisal in  
944 determining whether to renew such charter. The State Board of  
945 Education may deny an application for the renewal of a charter if (1)  
946 student progress has not been sufficiently demonstrated, as  
947 determined by the commissioner, (2) the governing council has not  
948 been sufficiently responsible for the operation of the school or has  
949 misused or spent public funds in a manner that is detrimental to the  
950 educational interests of the students attending the charter school, or (3)  
951 the school has not been in compliance with applicable laws and  
952 regulations. If the State Board of Education does not renew a charter, it  
953 shall notify the governing council of the charter school of the reasons  
954 for such nonrenewal.

955 (h) The Commissioner of Education may at any time place a charter  
956 school on probation if (1) the school has failed to (A) adequately  
957 demonstrate student progress, as determined by the commissioner, (B)  
958 comply with the terms of its charter or with applicable laws and  
959 regulations, (C) achieve measurable progress in reducing racial, ethnic  
960 and economic isolation, or (D) maintain its nonsectarian status, or (2)  
961 the governing council has demonstrated an inability to provide  
962 effective leadership to oversee the operation of the charter school or  
963 has not ensured that public funds are expended prudently or in a  
964 manner required by law. If a charter school is placed on probation, the  
965 commissioner shall provide written notice to the charter school of the  
966 reasons for such placement, not later than five days after the  
967 placement, and shall require the charter school to file with the  
968 Department of Education a corrective action plan acceptable to the  
969 commissioner not later than thirty-five days from the date of such  
970 placement. The charter school shall implement a corrective action plan

971 accepted by the commissioner not later than thirty days after the date  
972 of such acceptance. The commissioner may impose any additional  
973 terms of probation on the school that the commissioner deems  
974 necessary to protect the educational or financial interests of the state.  
975 The charter school shall comply with any such additional terms not  
976 later than thirty days after the date of their imposition. The  
977 commissioner shall determine the length of time of the probationary  
978 period, which may be up to one year, provided the commissioner may  
979 extend such period, for up to one additional year, if the commissioner  
980 deems it necessary. In the event that the charter school does not file or  
981 implement the corrective action plan within the required time period  
982 or does not comply with any additional terms within the required time  
983 period, the Commissioner of Education may withhold grant funds  
984 from the school until the plan is fully implemented or the school  
985 complies with the terms of probation, provided the commissioner may  
986 extend the time period for such implementation and compliance for  
987 good cause shown. Whenever a charter school is placed on probation,  
988 the commissioner shall notify the parents or guardians of students  
989 attending the school of the probationary status of the school and the  
990 reasons for such status. During the term of probation, the  
991 commissioner may require the school to file interim reports concerning  
992 any matter the commissioner deems relevant to the probationary  
993 status of the school, including financial reports or statements. No  
994 charter school on probation may increase its student enrollment or  
995 engage in the recruitment of new students without the consent of the  
996 commissioner.

997 (i) The State Board of Education may revoke a charter if a charter  
998 school has failed to: (1) Comply with the terms of probation, including  
999 the failure to file or implement a corrective action plan; (2)  
1000 demonstrate satisfactory student progress, as determined by the  
1001 commissioner; (3) comply with the terms of its charter or applicable  
1002 laws and regulations; or (4) manage its public funds in a prudent or  
1003 legal manner. Unless an emergency exists, prior to revoking a charter,  
1004 the State Board of Education shall provide the governing council of the

1005 charter school with a written notice of the reasons for the revocation,  
1006 including the identification of specific incidents of noncompliance with  
1007 the law, regulation or charter or other matters warranting revocation  
1008 of the charter. It shall also provide the governing council with the  
1009 opportunity to demonstrate compliance with all requirements for the  
1010 retention of its charter by providing the State Board of Education or a  
1011 subcommittee of the board, as determined by the State Board of  
1012 Education, with a written or oral presentation. Such presentation shall  
1013 include an opportunity for the governing council to present  
1014 documentary and testimonial evidence to refute the facts cited by the  
1015 State Board of Education for the proposed revocation or in justification  
1016 of its activities. Such opportunity shall not constitute a contested case  
1017 within the meaning of chapter 54. The State Board of Education shall  
1018 determine, not later than thirty days after the date of an oral  
1019 presentation or receipt of a written presentation, whether and when  
1020 the charter shall be revoked and notify the governing council of the  
1021 decision and the reasons therefor. A decision to revoke a charter shall  
1022 not constitute a final decision for purposes of chapter 54. In the event  
1023 an emergency exists in which the commissioner finds that there is  
1024 imminent harm to the students attending a charter school, the State  
1025 Board of Education may immediately revoke the charter of the school,  
1026 provided the notice concerning the reasons for the revocation is sent to  
1027 the governing council not later than ten days after the date of  
1028 revocation and the governing council is provided an opportunity to  
1029 make a presentation to the board not later than twenty days from the  
1030 date of such notice.

1031 Sec. 14. Section 10-66dd of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1032 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

1033 (a) For purposes of this section, "school professional" means any  
1034 school teacher, administrator or other personnel certified by the State  
1035 Board of Education pursuant to section 10-145b.

1036 (b) (1) Subject to the provisions of this subsection and except as may  
1037 be waived pursuant to subsection (d) of section 10-66bb, as amended



1038 by this act, charter schools shall be subject to all federal and state laws  
1039 governing public schools.

1040 (2) At least one-half of the persons providing instruction or pupil  
1041 services in a charter school shall possess the proper certificate other  
1042 than (A) a certificate issued pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection  
1043 (c) of section 10-145b, or (B) a temporary certificate issued pursuant to  
1044 subsection (c) of section 10-145f on the day the school begins operation  
1045 and the remaining persons shall possess a certificate issued pursuant  
1046 to said subdivision (1) or such temporary certificate on such day.

1047 (3) The commissioner may not waive the provisions of chapters 163c  
1048 and 169 and sections 10-15c, 10-153a to 10-153g, inclusive, 10-153i, 10-  
1049 153j, 10-153m and 10-292.

1050 (4) The state charter school governing council shall act as a board of  
1051 education for purposes of collective bargaining. The school  
1052 professionals employed by a local charter school shall be members of  
1053 the appropriate bargaining unit for the local or regional school district  
1054 in which the local charter school is located and shall be subject to the  
1055 same collective bargaining agreement as the school professionals  
1056 employed by said district. A majority of those employed or to be  
1057 employed in the local charter school and a majority of the members of  
1058 the governing council of the local charter school may modify, in  
1059 writing, such collective bargaining agreement, consistent with the  
1060 terms and conditions of the approved charter, for purposes of  
1061 employment in the charter school.

1062 (c) School professionals employed by a local or regional board of  
1063 education shall be entitled to a two-year leave of absence, without  
1064 compensation, in order to be employed in a charter school provided  
1065 such leave shall be extended upon request for an additional two years.  
1066 At any time during or upon the completion of such a leave of absence,  
1067 a school professional may return to work in the school district in the  
1068 position in which he was previously employed or a comparable  
1069 position. Such leave of absence shall not be deemed to be an

1070 interruption of service for purposes of seniority and teachers'  
1071 retirement, except that time may not be accrued for purposes of  
1072 attaining tenure. A school professional who is not on such a leave of  
1073 absence and is employed for forty school months of full-time  
1074 continuous employment by the charter school and is subsequently  
1075 employed by a local or regional board of education shall attain tenure  
1076 after the completion of twenty school months of full-time continuous  
1077 employment by such board of education in accordance with section 10-  
1078 151.

1079 (d) (1) An otherwise qualified school professional hired by a charter  
1080 school prior to July 1, 2010, and employed in a charter school may  
1081 participate in the state teacher retirement system under chapter 167a  
1082 on the same basis as if such professional were employed by a local or  
1083 regional board of education. The governing council of a charter school  
1084 shall make the contributions, as defined in subdivision (7) of section  
1085 10-183b for such professional.

1086 (2) An otherwise qualified school professional hired by a charter  
1087 school on or after July 1, 2010, and who has not previously been  
1088 employed by a charter school in this state prior to July 1, 2010, shall  
1089 participate in the state teacher retirement system under chapter 176a  
1090 on the same basis as if such professional were employed by a local or  
1091 regional board of education. The governing council of a charter school  
1092 shall make the contributions, as defined in subdivision (7) of section  
1093 10-183b for such professional.

1094 Sec. 15. Section 10-66hh of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1095 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1096 (a) For the fiscal [years] year ending June 30, 2008, [and June 30,  
1097 2009] and each fiscal year thereafter, the Commissioner of Education  
1098 shall establish, within available bond authorizations, a grant program  
1099 to assist state charter schools in financing (1) school building projects,  
1100 as defined in section 10-282, (2) general improvements to school  
1101 buildings, as defined in subsection (a) of section 10-265h, and (3)

1102 repayment of debt incurred for school building projects. The  
1103 governing authorities of such state charter schools may apply for such  
1104 grants to the Department of Education at such time and in such  
1105 manner as the commissioner prescribes. The commissioner shall give  
1106 preference to applications that provide for matching funds from  
1107 nonstate sources.

1108 (b) All final calculations for grant awards pursuant to this section in  
1109 an amount equal to or greater than two hundred fifty thousand dollars  
1110 shall include a computation of the state grant amount amortized on a  
1111 straight line basis over a ten-year period. Any state charter school  
1112 which abandons, sells, leases, demolishes or otherwise redirects the  
1113 use of a school building which benefited from such a grant award  
1114 during such amortization period, including repayment of debt for the  
1115 purchase, renovation or improvement of the building, shall refund to  
1116 the state the unamortized balance of the state grant remaining as of the  
1117 date that the abandonment, sale, lease, demolition or redirection  
1118 occurred. The amortization period shall begin on the date the grant  
1119 award is paid. A state charter school required to make a refund to the  
1120 state pursuant to this subsection may request forgiveness of such  
1121 refund if the building is redirected for public use.

1122 Sec. 16. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) On or before July 1, 2011, the  
1123 State Board of Education shall adopt regulations, in accordance with  
1124 the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to (1) prohibit a  
1125 charter school and any affiliated charter management organization  
1126 operating such charter school from sharing board members with other  
1127 charter schools and such charter management organizations; (2)  
1128 require the disclosure of sharing management personnel; (3) prohibit  
1129 unsecured, noninterest bearing transfers of state and federal funds  
1130 between charter schools and from charter schools to charter  
1131 management organizations; (4) define allowable direct or indirect costs  
1132 and the methodology to be used by charter management organizations  
1133 to calculate per pupil service fees; and (5) permit charter management  
1134 organizations to collect private donations for purposes of distributing  
1135 to charter schools.

1136 Sec. 17. Section 10-221a of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1137 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

1138 (a) For classes graduating from 1988 to 2003, inclusive, no local or  
1139 regional board of education shall permit any student to graduate from  
1140 high school or grant a diploma to any student who has not  
1141 satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty credits, not fewer than  
1142 four of which shall be in English, not fewer than three in mathematics,  
1143 not fewer than three in social studies, not fewer than two in science,  
1144 not fewer than one in the arts or vocational education and not fewer  
1145 than one in physical education.

1146 (b) [Commencing with classes graduating in 2004, and for each  
1147 graduating class thereafter] For classes graduating from 2004 to 2017,  
1148 inclusive, no local or regional board of education shall permit any  
1149 student to graduate from high school or grant a diploma to any  
1150 student who has not satisfactorily completed a minimum of twenty  
1151 credits, not fewer than four of which shall be in English, not fewer than  
1152 three in mathematics, not fewer than three in social studies, including  
1153 at least a one-half credit course on civics and American government,  
1154 not fewer than two in science, not fewer than one in the arts or  
1155 vocational education and not fewer than one in physical education.

1156 (c) Commencing with classes graduating in 2018, and for each  
1157 graduating class thereafter, no local or regional board of education  
1158 shall permit any student to graduate from high school or grant a  
1159 diploma to any student who has not satisfactorily completed (1) a  
1160 minimum of twenty-five credits, including not fewer than: (A) Nine  
1161 credits in the humanities, including not fewer than (i) four credits in  
1162 English, including composition; (ii) three credits in social studies,  
1163 including at least one credit in American history and at least one-half  
1164 credit in civics and American government; (iii) one credit in fine arts;  
1165 and (iv) one credit in a humanities elective; (B) eight credits in science,  
1166 technology, engineering and mathematics, including not fewer than (i)  
1167 four credits in mathematics, including algebra I, geometry and algebra  
1168 II or probability and statistics; (ii) three credits in science, including at

1169 least one credit in life science and at least one credit in physical science;  
1170 and (iii) one credit in a science, technology, engineering and  
1171 mathematics elective; (C) three and one-half credits in career and life  
1172 skills, including not fewer than (i) one credit in physical education; (ii)  
1173 one-half credit in health and safety education, as described in section  
1174 10-16b; and (iii) two credits in career and life skills electives, such as  
1175 career and technical education, English as a second language,  
1176 community service, personal finance, public speaking and nutrition  
1177 and physical activity; (D) two credits in world languages, subject to the  
1178 provisions of subsection (g) of this section; and (E) a one credit senior  
1179 demonstration project or its equivalent, as approved by the State Board  
1180 of Education; and (2) end of the school year examinations for the  
1181 following courses: (A) Algebra I, (B) geometry, (C) biology, (D)  
1182 American history, and (E) grade ten English.

1183 (d) Commencing with classes graduating in 2018, and for each  
1184 graduating class thereafter, local and regional boards of education  
1185 shall provide adequate student support and remedial services for  
1186 students beginning in grade seven. Such student support and remedial  
1187 services shall provide alternate means for a student to complete any of  
1188 the high school graduation requirements or end of the school year  
1189 examinations described in subsection (c) of this section, if such student  
1190 is unable to satisfactorily complete any of the required courses or  
1191 exams. Such student support and remedial services shall include, but  
1192 not be limited to, (1) allowing students to retake courses in summer  
1193 school or through an on-line course; (2) allowing students to enroll in a  
1194 class offered at a constituent unit of the state system of higher  
1195 education, as defined in section 10a-1, pursuant to subdivision (4) of  
1196 subsection (g) of this section; (3) allowing students who received a  
1197 failing score, as determined by the Commissioner of Education, on an  
1198 end of the school year exam to take an alternate form of the exam; and  
1199 (4) allowing those students whose individualized education plans state  
1200 that such students are eligible for an alternate assessment to  
1201 demonstrate competency on any of the five core courses through  
1202 success on such alternate assessment.

1203        [(c)] (e) Any student who presents a certificate from a physician  
1204 stating that, in the opinion of the physician, participation in physical  
1205 education is medically contraindicated because of the physical  
1206 condition of such student, shall be excused from the physical  
1207 education requirement, provided the credit for physical education may  
1208 be fulfilled by an elective.

1209        [(d)] (f) Determination of eligible credits shall be at the discretion of  
1210 the local or regional board of education, provided the primary focus of  
1211 the curriculum of eligible credits corresponds directly to the subject  
1212 matter of the specified course requirements. The local or regional  
1213 board of education may permit a student to graduate during a period  
1214 of expulsion pursuant to section 10-233d, if the board determines the  
1215 student has satisfactorily completed the necessary credits pursuant to  
1216 this section. The requirements of this section shall apply to any student  
1217 requiring special education pursuant to section 10-76a, except when  
1218 the planning and placement team for such student determines the  
1219 requirement not to be appropriate. For purposes of this section, a  
1220 credit shall consist of not less than the equivalent of a forty-minute  
1221 class period for each school day of a school year except for a credit or  
1222 part of a credit toward high school graduation earned (1) at an  
1223 institution accredited by the Department of Higher Education or  
1224 regionally accredited; or (2) through on-line coursework that is in  
1225 accordance with a policy adopted pursuant to subsection (g) of this  
1226 section.

1227        [(e)] (g) Only courses taken in grades nine through twelve,  
1228 inclusive, shall satisfy this graduation requirement, except that a local  
1229 or regional board of education may grant a student credit (1) toward  
1230 meeting a specified course requirement upon the successful  
1231 completion in grade seven or eight of any course, the primary focus of  
1232 which corresponds directly to the subject matter of a specified course  
1233 requirement in grades nine to twelve, inclusive; (2) toward meeting the  
1234 high school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of  
1235 a world language course (A) in grade six, seven or eight, (B) through  
1236 on-line coursework, or (C) offered privately through a nonprofit

1237 provider, provided such student achieves a passing grade on an  
1238 examination prescribed, within available appropriations, by the  
1239 Commissioner of Education and such credits do not exceed four; (3)  
1240 toward meeting the high school graduation requirement upon  
1241 achievement of a passing grade on a subject area proficiency  
1242 examination identified and approved, within available appropriations,  
1243 by the Commissioner of Education, regardless of the number of hours  
1244 the student spent in a public school classroom learning such subject  
1245 matter; [or] (4) toward meeting the high school graduation  
1246 requirement upon the successful completion of coursework at an  
1247 institution accredited by the Department of Higher Education or  
1248 regionally accredited. One three-credit semester course, or its  
1249 equivalent, at such an institution shall equal one-half credit for  
1250 purposes of this section; (5) toward meeting the high school  
1251 graduation requirement upon the successful completion of on-line  
1252 coursework, provided the local or regional board of education has  
1253 adopted a policy in accordance with this subdivision for the granting  
1254 of credit for on-line coursework. Such a policy shall ensure, at a  
1255 minimum, that (A) the workload required by the on-line course is  
1256 equivalent to that of a similar course taught in a traditional classroom  
1257 setting, (B) the content is rigorous and aligned with curriculum  
1258 guidelines approved by the State Board of Education, where  
1259 appropriate, (C) the course engages students and has interactive  
1260 components, which may include, but are not limited to, required  
1261 interactions between students and their teachers, participation in on-  
1262 line demonstrations, discussion boards or virtual labs, (D) the program  
1263 of instruction for such on-line coursework is planned, ongoing and  
1264 systematic, and (E) the courses are (i) taught by teachers who are  
1265 certified in the state or another state and have received training on  
1266 teaching in an on-line environment, or (ii) offered by institutions of  
1267 higher education that are accredited by the Department of Higher  
1268 Education or regionally accredited; or (6) toward meeting the high  
1269 school graduation requirement upon the successful completion of the  
1270 board examination series pursuant to section 18 of this act.

1271        [(f)] (h) A local or regional board of education may offer one-half  
1272 credit in community service which, if satisfactorily completed, shall  
1273 qualify for high school graduation credit pursuant to this section,  
1274 provided such community service is supervised by a certified school  
1275 administrator or teacher and consists of not less than fifty hours of  
1276 actual service that may be performed at times when school is not  
1277 regularly in session and not less than ten hours of related classroom  
1278 instruction. For purposes of this section, community service does not  
1279 include partisan political activities. The State Board of Education shall  
1280 assist local and regional boards of education in meeting the  
1281 requirements of this section.

1282        [(g)] (i) A local or regional board of education may award a diploma  
1283 to a veteran of World War II, pursuant to section 27-103, who left high  
1284 school prior to graduation in order to serve in the armed forces of the  
1285 United States and did not receive a diploma as a consequence of such  
1286 service.

1287        (j) For the school year commencing July 1, 2012, and each school  
1288 year thereafter, a local or regional board of education shall collect  
1289 information for each student enrolled in a public school, beginning in  
1290 grade six, that records students' career and academic choices in grades  
1291 six to twelve, inclusive.

1292        Sec. 18. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) The Department of  
1293 Education may establish a board examination series pilot program to  
1294 allow local and regional boards of education to permit students in  
1295 grades nine to twelve, inclusive, to substitute achievement of a passing  
1296 score on a series of examinations approved by the State Board of  
1297 Education for the high school graduation requirements pursuant to  
1298 section 10-221a of the general statutes, as amended by this act. The  
1299 State Board of Education shall issue a board examination certificate to  
1300 any student who has successfully completed such program. Such  
1301 board examination certificate shall be considered in the same manner  
1302 as a high school diploma for purposes of determining eligibility of a  
1303 student for enrollment at a public institution of higher education in



1304 this state.

1305 (b) Notwithstanding the high school graduation requirements  
1306 pursuant to section 10-221a of the general statutes, as amended by this  
1307 act, for the school year commencing July 1, 2011, and each school year  
1308 thereafter, a local or regional board of education shall permit a student  
1309 to graduate from high school upon the successful completion of the  
1310 board examination series program described in subsection (a) of this  
1311 section.

1312 Sec. 19. (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) For the fiscal years ending June 30,  
1313 2013, to June 30, 2018, inclusive, the Department of Education shall,  
1314 within available appropriations, provide grants to local and regional  
1315 school districts to begin implementation of the provisions of  
1316 subsections (c) and (d) of section 10-221a of the general statutes, as  
1317 amended by this act.

1318 (b) On or before November 1, 2012, and biennially thereafter, each  
1319 local or regional board of education seeking grant assistance from the  
1320 department pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall report to the  
1321 department on the status of the school district's implementation of the  
1322 provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of section 10-221a of the general  
1323 statutes, as amended by this act, and an explanation for the reasons  
1324 why funds are necessary for the next biennium to implement the  
1325 provisions of subsections (c) and (d) of said section 10-221a.

1326 (c) On or before February 1, 2013, and biennially thereafter, the  
1327 department shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section  
1328 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the  
1329 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education  
1330 on the status of implementation of the provisions of subsections (c)  
1331 and (d) of section 10-221a of the general statutes, as amended by this  
1332 act, by local and regional boards of education in the state. Such report  
1333 shall include, (1) an explanation of any existing state and federal funds  
1334 currently available to assist in such implementation, (2)  
1335 recommendations regarding the appropriation of additional state

1336 funds to support local and regional boards of education in the  
1337 implementation of subsections (c) and (d) of said section 10-221a, and  
1338 (3) recommendations for any statutory changes that would facilitate  
1339 implementation of subsections (c) and (d) of said section 10-221a by  
1340 local and regional boards of education.

1341 Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) On and after July 1, 2012, the  
1342 Department of Education shall commence development or approval of  
1343 the end of the school year examinations to be administered pursuant to  
1344 subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of section 10-221a of the general  
1345 statutes, as amended by this act. Such examinations shall be developed  
1346 or approved on or before July 1, 2014.

1347 Sec. 21. Subsection (g) of section 10-233c of the 2010 supplement to  
1348 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
1349 thereof (*Effective from passage*):

1350 (g) On and after July 1, 2010, suspensions pursuant to this section  
1351 shall be in-school suspensions, unless during the hearing held  
1352 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, (1) the administration  
1353 determines that the pupil being suspended poses such a danger to  
1354 persons or property or such a disruption of the educational process  
1355 that the pupil shall be excluded from school during the period of  
1356 suspension, or (2) the administration determines that an out-of-school  
1357 suspension is appropriate for such pupil based on evidence of (A)  
1358 previous disciplinary problems that have led to suspensions or  
1359 expulsion of such pupil, and (B) efforts by the administration to  
1360 address such disciplinary problems through means other than out-of-  
1361 school suspension or expulsion, including positive behavioral support  
1362 strategies. An in-school suspension may be served in the school that  
1363 the pupil attends, or in any school building under the jurisdiction of  
1364 the local or regional board of education, as determined by such board.

1365 Sec. 22. Section 10-223e of the general statutes is repealed and the  
1366 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2010*):

1367 (a) In conformance with the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110,

1368 the Commissioner of Education shall prepare a state-wide education  
1369 accountability plan, consistent with federal law and regulation. Such  
1370 plan shall identify the schools and districts in need of improvement,  
1371 require the development and implementation of improvement plans  
1372 and utilize rewards and consequences.

1373 (b) Public schools identified by the State Board of Education  
1374 pursuant to section 10-223b of the general statutes, revision of 1958,  
1375 revised to January 1, 2001, as schools in need of improvement shall: (1)  
1376 Continue to be identified as schools in need of improvement, and  
1377 continue to operate under school improvement plans developed  
1378 pursuant to said section 10-223b through June 30, 2004; (2) on or before  
1379 February 1, 2003, be evaluated by the local board of education and  
1380 determined to be making sufficient or insufficient progress; (3) if found  
1381 to be making insufficient progress by a local board of education, be  
1382 subject to a new remediation and organization plan developed by the  
1383 local board of education; (4) continue to be eligible for available federal  
1384 or state aid; (5) beginning in February, 2003, be monitored by the  
1385 Department of Education for adequate yearly progress, as defined in  
1386 the state accountability plan prepared in accordance with subsection  
1387 (a) of this section; and (6) be subject to rewards and consequences as  
1388 defined in said plan.

1389 (c) (1) Any school or school district identified as in need of  
1390 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and requiring  
1391 corrective action pursuant to the requirements of the No Child Left  
1392 Behind Act, P.L. 107-110, shall be designated and listed as a low  
1393 achieving school or school district and shall be subject to intensified  
1394 supervision and direction by the State Board of Education.

1395 (2) Notwithstanding any provision of this title or any regulation  
1396 adopted pursuant to said statutes, except as provided in subdivision  
1397 (3) of this subsection, in carrying out the provisions of subdivision (1)  
1398 of this subsection, the State Board of Education shall take any of the  
1399 following actions to improve student performance and remove the  
1400 school or district from the list of schools or districts designated and

1401 listed as a low achieving school or district pursuant to said subdivision  
1402 (1), and to address other needs of the school or district: (A) Require an  
1403 operations audit to identify possible programmatic savings and an  
1404 instructional audit to identify any deficits in curriculum and  
1405 instruction or in the learning environment of the school or district; (B)  
1406 require the local or regional board of education for such school or  
1407 district to use state and federal funds for critical needs, as directed by  
1408 the State Board of Education; (C) provide incentives to attract highly  
1409 qualified teachers and principals; (D) direct the transfer and  
1410 assignment of teachers and principals; (E) require additional training  
1411 and technical assistance for parents and guardians of children  
1412 attending the school or a school in the district and for teachers,  
1413 principals, and central office staff members hired by the district; (F)  
1414 require the local or regional board of education for the school or  
1415 district to implement model curriculum, including, but not limited to,  
1416 recommended textbooks, materials and supplies approved by the  
1417 Department of Education; (G) identify schools for reconstitution, as  
1418 may be phased in by the commissioner, as state or local charter  
1419 schools, schools established pursuant to section 10-74g, or schools  
1420 based on other models for school improvement, or for management by  
1421 an entity other than the local or regional board of education for the  
1422 district in which the school is located; (H) direct the local or regional  
1423 board of education for the school or district to develop and implement  
1424 a plan addressing deficits in achievement and in the learning  
1425 environment as recommended in the instructional audit; (I) assign a  
1426 technical assistance team to the school or district to guide school or  
1427 district initiatives and report progress to the Commissioner of  
1428 Education; (J) establish instructional and learning environment  
1429 benchmarks for the school or district to meet as it progresses toward  
1430 removal from the list of low achieving schools or districts; (K) provide  
1431 funding to any proximate district to a district designated as a low  
1432 achieving school district so that students in a low achieving district  
1433 may attend public school in a neighboring district; (L) direct the  
1434 establishment of learning academies within schools that require  
1435 continuous monitoring of student performance by teacher groups; (M)

1436 require local and regional boards of education to (i) undergo training  
1437 to improve their operational efficiency and effectiveness as leaders of  
1438 their districts' improvement plans, and (ii) submit an annual action  
1439 plan to the Commissioner of Education outlining how, when and in  
1440 what manner their effectiveness shall be monitored; or (N) any  
1441 combination of the actions described in this subdivision or similar,  
1442 closely related actions.

1443 (3) If a directive of the State Board of Education pursuant to  
1444 subparagraph (C), (D), (E) or (L) of subdivision (2) of this subsection or  
1445 a directive to implement a plan pursuant to subparagraph (H) of said  
1446 subdivision affects working conditions, such directive shall be carried  
1447 out in accordance with the provisions of sections 10-153a to 10-153n,  
1448 inclusive.

1449 (4) The Comptroller shall, pursuant to the provisions of section 10-  
1450 262i, withhold any grant funds that a town is otherwise required to  
1451 appropriate to a local or regional board of education due to low  
1452 academic achievement in the school district pursuant to section 10-  
1453 262h. Said funds shall be transferred to the Department of Education  
1454 and shall be expended by the department on behalf of the identified  
1455 school district. Said funds shall be used to implement the provisions of  
1456 subdivision (2) of this subsection and to offset such other local  
1457 education costs that the Commissioner of Education deems  
1458 appropriate to achieve school improvements. These funds shall be  
1459 awarded by the commissioner to the local or regional board of  
1460 education for such identified school district upon condition that said  
1461 funds shall be spent in accordance with the directives of the  
1462 commissioner.

1463 (d) The State Board of Education shall monitor the progress of each  
1464 school or district designated as a low achieving school or district  
1465 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section and provide  
1466 notice to the local or regional board of education for each such school  
1467 or district of the school or district's progress toward meeting the  
1468 benchmarks established by the State Board of Education pursuant to

1469 subsection (c) of this section. If a district fails to make acceptable  
1470 progress toward meeting such benchmarks established by the State  
1471 Board of Education and fails to make adequate yearly progress  
1472 pursuant to the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L.  
1473 107-110, for two consecutive years while designated as a low achieving  
1474 school district, the State Board of Education, after consultation with the  
1475 Governor and chief elected official or officials of the district, may  
1476 request that the General Assembly enact legislation authorizing that  
1477 control of the district be reassigned to the State Board of Education or  
1478 other authorized entity.

1479 (e) Any school district or elementary school after two successive  
1480 years of failing to make adequate yearly progress shall be designated  
1481 as a low achieving school district or school and shall be evaluated by  
1482 the Commissioner of Education. After such evaluation, the  
1483 commissioner may require that such school district or school provide  
1484 full-day kindergarten classes, summer school, extended school day,  
1485 weekend classes, tutorial assistance to its students or professional  
1486 development to its administrators, principals, teachers and  
1487 paraprofessional teacher aides if (1) on any subpart of the third grade  
1488 state-wide mastery examination, thirty per cent or more of the students  
1489 in any subgroup, as defined by the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-  
1490 110, do not achieve the level of proficiency or higher, or (2) the  
1491 commissioner determines that it would be in the best educational  
1492 interests of the school or the school district to have any of these  
1493 programs. In ordering any educational program authorized by this  
1494 subsection, the commissioner may limit the offering of the program to  
1495 the subgroup of students that have failed to achieve proficiency as  
1496 determined by this subsection, those in particular grades or those who  
1497 are otherwise at substantial risk of educational failure. The costs of  
1498 instituting the ordered educational programs shall be borne by the  
1499 identified low achieving school district or the school district in which  
1500 an identified low achieving school is located. The commissioner shall  
1501 not order an educational program that costs more to implement than  
1502 the total increase in the amount of the grant that a town receives

1503 pursuant to section 10-262i in any fiscal year above the prior fiscal  
1504 year.

1505 (f) The Commissioner of Education shall conduct a study, within the  
1506 limits of the capacity of the Department of Education to perform such  
1507 study, of academic achievement of individual students over time as  
1508 measured by performance on the state-wide mastery examination in  
1509 grades three to eight, inclusive. If this study evidences a pattern of  
1510 continuous and substantial growth in educational performance on said  
1511 examinations for individual students, then the commissioner may  
1512 determine that the school district or elementary school shall not be  
1513 subject to the requirements of subsection (e) of this section, but shall  
1514 still comply with the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act,  
1515 P.L. 107-110, if applicable.

1516 (g) (1) (A) On and after July 1, 2010, the local or regional board of  
1517 education for a school that has been identified as in need of  
1518 improvement pursuant to subsection (a) of this section may establish a  
1519 school governance council for each school so identified.

1520 (B) On and after July 1, 2010, the local or regional board of  
1521 education for a school that has been designated as a low achieving  
1522 school, pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, due  
1523 to such school failing to make adequate yearly progress in  
1524 mathematics and reading at the whole school level shall establish a  
1525 school governance council for each school so designated.

1526 (2) (A) The school governance council for high schools shall consist  
1527 of (i) seven members who shall be parents or guardians of students  
1528 attending the school, (ii) two members who shall be community  
1529 leaders within the school district, (iii) five members who shall be  
1530 teachers at the school, (iv) one nonvoting member who is the principal  
1531 of the school, or his or her designee, and (v) two nonvoting student  
1532 members who shall be students at the school. The parent or guardian  
1533 members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of students  
1534 attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election, each

1535 household with a student attending the school shall have one vote. The  
1536 community leader members shall be elected by the parent or guardian  
1537 members and teacher members of the school governance council. The  
1538 teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the school. The  
1539 nonvoting student members shall be elected by the student body of the  
1540 school.

1541 (B) The school governance council for elementary and middle  
1542 schools shall consist of (i) seven members who shall be parents or  
1543 guardians of students attending the school, (ii) two members who shall  
1544 be community leaders within the school district, (iii) five members  
1545 who shall be teachers at the school, and (iv) one nonvoting member  
1546 who is the principal of the school, or his or her designee. The parent or  
1547 guardian members shall be elected by the parents or guardians of  
1548 students attending the school, provided, for purposes of the election,  
1549 each household with a student attending the school shall have one  
1550 vote. The community leader members shall be elected by the parent or  
1551 guardian members and teacher members of the school governance  
1552 council. The teacher members shall be elected by the teachers of the  
1553 school.

1554 (C) Terms of voting members elected pursuant to this subdivision  
1555 shall be for two years and no members shall serve more than two  
1556 terms on the council. The nonvoting student members shall serve one  
1557 year and no student member shall serve more than two terms on the  
1558 council.

1559 (D) (i) Schools that have been designated as a low achieving school  
1560 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section due to such  
1561 school failing to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics and  
1562 reading at the whole school level prior to July 1, 2010, and are among  
1563 the lowest five per cent of schools in the state based on achievement  
1564 shall establish a school governance council for the school not later than  
1565 January 15, 2011.

1566 (ii) Schools that have been designated as a low achieving school,



1567 pursuant to subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section, due to such  
1568 school failing to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics and  
1569 reading at the whole school level prior to July 1, 2010, but are not  
1570 among the lowest five per cent of schools in the state based on  
1571 achievement, shall establish a school governance council for the school  
1572 not later than November 1, 2011.

1573 (3) The school governance council shall have the following  
1574 responsibilities: (A) Analyzing school achievement data and school  
1575 needs relative to the improvement plan for the school prepared  
1576 pursuant to this section; (B) reviewing the fiscal objectives of the draft  
1577 budget for the school and providing advice to the principal of the  
1578 school before such school's budget is submitted to the superintendent  
1579 of schools for the district; (C) participating in the hiring process of the  
1580 school principal or other administrators of the school by conducting  
1581 interviews of candidates and reporting on such interviews to the  
1582 superintendent of schools for the school district and the local and  
1583 regional board of education; (D) assisting the principal of the school in  
1584 making programmatic and operational changes for improving the  
1585 school's achievement, including program changes, adjusting school  
1586 hours and days of operation, and enrollment goals for the school; (E)  
1587 working with the school administration to develop and approve a  
1588 school compact for parents, legal guardians and students that includes  
1589 an outline of the criteria and responsibilities for enrollment and school  
1590 membership consistent with the school's goals and academic focus,  
1591 and the ways that parents and school personnel can build a  
1592 partnership to improve student learning; (F) developing and  
1593 approving a written parent involvement policy that outlines the role of  
1594 parents and legal guardians in the school; (G) utilizing records relating  
1595 to information about parents and guardians of students maintained by  
1596 the local or regional board of education for the sole purpose of the  
1597 election described in subdivision (2) of this subsection. Such  
1598 information shall be confidential and shall only be disclosed as  
1599 provided in this subparagraph and shall not be further disclosed; and  
1600 (H) if the council determines it necessary and subject to the provisions

1601 of subdivision (9) of this subsection recommending reconstitution of  
1602 the school in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (6) of this  
1603 subsection.

1604 (4) The school governance council may: (A) In those schools that  
1605 require an improvement plan, review the annual draft report detailing  
1606 the goals set forth in the state accountability plan prepared in  
1607 accordance with subsection (a) of this section and provide advice to the  
1608 principal of the school prior to submission of the report to the  
1609 superintendent of schools; (B) in those schools where an improvement  
1610 plan becomes required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, assist  
1611 the principal of the school in developing such plan prior to its  
1612 submission to the superintendent of schools; (C) work with the  
1613 principal of the school to develop, conduct and report the results of an  
1614 annual survey of parents, guardians and teachers on issues related to  
1615 the school climate and conditions; and (D) provide advice on any other  
1616 major policy matters affecting the school to the principal of the school,  
1617 except on any matters relating to provisions of any collective  
1618 bargaining agreement between the exclusive bargaining unit for  
1619 teachers pursuant to section 10-153b and local or regional boards of  
1620 education.

1621 (5) The local or regional board of education shall provide  
1622 appropriate training and instruction to members of the school  
1623 governance council to aid them in the execution of their duties.

1624 (6) (A) The school governance council may, by an affirmative vote of  
1625 the council, recommend the reconstitution of the school into one of the  
1626 following models: (i) The turnaround model, as described in the  
1627 Federal Register of December 10, 2009; (ii) the restart model, as  
1628 described in the Federal Register of December 10, 2009; (iii) the  
1629 transformation model, as described in the Federal Register of  
1630 December 10, 2009; (iv) any other model that may be developed by  
1631 federal law; (v) a CommPACT school, pursuant to section 10-74g; or  
1632 (vi) an innovation school, pursuant to section 6 of this act. Not later  
1633 than ten days after the school governance council informs the local or

1634 regional board of education of its recommendation for the school, such  
1635 board shall hold a public hearing to discuss such vote of the school  
1636 governance council and shall, at the next regularly scheduled meeting  
1637 of such board or ten days after such public hearing, whichever is later,  
1638 conduct a vote to accept the model recommended by the school  
1639 governance council, select an alternative model described in this  
1640 subdivision or maintain the current school status. If the board selects  
1641 an alternative model, the board shall meet with such school  
1642 governance council to discuss an agreement on which alternative to  
1643 adopt not later than ten days after such vote of the board. If no such  
1644 agreement can be achieved, not later than forty-five days after the last  
1645 such meeting between the board and the school governance council,  
1646 the Commissioner of Education shall decide which of the alternatives  
1647 to implement. If the board votes to maintain the current school status,  
1648 not later than forty-five days after such vote of the board, the  
1649 Commissioner of Education shall decide whether to implement the  
1650 model recommended by the school governance council or to maintain  
1651 the current school status. If the final decision pursuant to this  
1652 subdivision is adoption of a model, the local or regional board of  
1653 education shall implement such model during the subsequent school  
1654 year in conformance with the general statutes and applicable  
1655 regulations, and the provisions specified in federal regulations and  
1656 guidelines for schools subject to restructuring pursuant to Section  
1657 1116(b)(8) of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110 or any other  
1658 applicable federal laws or regulations.

1659 (B) Any school governance council for a school may recommend  
1660 reconstitution, pursuant to subparagraph (H) of subdivision (3) of this  
1661 subsection, during the third year after such school governance council  
1662 was established if the school for such governance council has not  
1663 reconstituted as a result of receiving a school improvement grant  
1664 pursuant to Section 1003(g) of Title I of the Elementary and Secondary  
1665 Education Act, 20 USC 6301 et seq., or such reconstitution was initiated  
1666 by a source other than the school governance council.

1667 (7) A school governance council shall be considered a component of

1668 parental involvement for purposes of federal funding pursuant to  
1669 Section 1118 of the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110.

1670 (8) The Commissioner of Education shall evaluate the school  
1671 governance councils established on or before January 15, 2011, based  
1672 on the criteria described in subsection (a) of section 23 of this act. On or  
1673 before October 1, 2014, the commissioner shall report, in accordance  
1674 with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of  
1675 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
1676 education on the evaluation conducted pursuant to this subdivision.  
1677 Such report shall also include recommendations whether to continue  
1678 to allow school governance councils to recommend reconstitution  
1679 pursuant to this subsection.

1680 (9) The department shall allow not more than twenty-five schools  
1681 per school year to reconstitute pursuant to this subsection. The  
1682 department shall notify school districts and school governance  
1683 councils when this limit has been reached. For purposes of this  
1684 subdivision, a reconstitution shall be counted towards this limit upon  
1685 receipt by the department of notification of a final decision regarding  
1686 reconstitution by the local or regional board of education.

1687 Sec. 23. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) The Department of  
1688 Education shall monitor, within available appropriations, those  
1689 schools that have reconstituted pursuant to subsection (g) of section  
1690 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, to determine  
1691 whether such schools have demonstrated progress with regard to the  
1692 following indicators: (1) The reconstitution model adopted by the  
1693 school; (2) the length of the school day and school year; (3) the number  
1694 and type of disciplinary incidents; (4) the number of truants; (5) the  
1695 dropout rate; (6) the student attendance rate; (7) the average scale  
1696 scores on the state-wide mastery examination pursuant to section 10-  
1697 14n of the general statutes; (8) for high schools, the number and  
1698 percentage of students completing advanced placement coursework;  
1699 (9) the teacher attendance rate; and (10) the existence and size of the  
1700 parent-teacher organization for the school. Such monitoring shall be

1701 conducted over the two-year period following such reconstitution.

1702 (b) On or before January 1, 2012, the department shall report, in  
1703 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
1704 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
1705 cognizance of matters relating to education on (1) the number of school  
1706 governance councils established pursuant to subsection (g) of section  
1707 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, and (2) the  
1708 number of schools that have been reconstituted and the models, as  
1709 described in said subsection (g), that have been adopted as part of such  
1710 reconstitution.

1711 (c) On or before January 1, 2013, the department shall report, in  
1712 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes,  
1713 to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having  
1714 cognizance of matters relating to education on (1) the monitoring  
1715 conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, (2)  
1716 recommendations relating to changes in the reconstitution options  
1717 available to schools, including whether school governance councils  
1718 may continue to recommend reconstitution pursuant to subsection (g)  
1719 of section 10-223e of the general statutes, as amended by this act, (3)  
1720 comparison of the models adopted, and (4) the level of progress of  
1721 schools adopting each model in relation to the indicators described in  
1722 subsection (a) of this section.

1723 Sec. 24. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) On or before July 1, 2011,  
1724 and biennially thereafter, the Department of Education shall report,  
1725 within available appropriations, in accordance with the provisions of  
1726 section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of  
1727 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to  
1728 education on (1) the number of such school governance councils that  
1729 have initiated reconstitution pursuant to subsection (g) of section 10-  
1730 223 of the general statutes, (2) a comparison of those school  
1731 governance councils that have initiated such reconstitution and those  
1732 that have not, and (3) whether parental involvement has increased at  
1733 those schools with school governance councils.

1734 (b) On or before July 1, 2011, and annually thereafter, the  
1735 department shall report, in accordance with the provisions of section  
1736 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the  
1737 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education  
1738 on the evaluations conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

1739 Sec. 25. Section 17b-751 of the 2010 supplement to the general  
1740 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
1741 (*Effective from passage*):

1742 (a) There is established a Children's Trust Fund, the resources of  
1743 which shall be used by the council established pursuant to subsection  
1744 (b) of this section and the Commissioner of Social Services with the  
1745 advice of the Children's Trust Fund Council to fund programs aimed  
1746 at preventing child abuse and neglect and family resource programs.  
1747 Said fund is intended to be in addition to those resources that would  
1748 otherwise be appropriated by the state for programs aimed at  
1749 preventing child abuse and neglect and family resource programs. The  
1750 Children's Trust Fund Council and the commissioner may apply for  
1751 and accept any federal funds which are available for a Children's Trust  
1752 Fund and shall administer such funds in the manner required by  
1753 federal law. The fund shall receive money from grants and gifts made  
1754 pursuant to section 17a-18. The Children's Trust Fund Council and the  
1755 commissioner may solicit and accept funds, on behalf of the Children's  
1756 Trust Fund, to be used for the prevention of child abuse and neglect  
1757 and family resource programs. The Commissioner of Social Services,  
1758 with the advice of the Children's Trust Fund Council, shall adopt  
1759 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to  
1760 administer the fund and to set eligibility requirements for programs  
1761 seeking funding. Youth service bureaus may receive funds from the  
1762 Children's Trust Fund. [The Parent Trust Fund, established pursuant  
1763 to subsection (c) of this section, may receive funds directed to it  
1764 through the Children's Trust Fund.]

1765 (b) There shall be established, within existing resources, a Children's  
1766 Trust Fund Council which shall be within the Department of Social

1767 Services. The council shall be composed of sixteen members as follows:  
1768 (1) The Commissioners of Social Services, Education, Children and  
1769 Families and Public Health, or their designees; (2) a representative of  
1770 the business community with experience in fund-raising, appointed by  
1771 the president pro tempore of the Senate; (3) a representative of the  
1772 business community with experience in fund-raising, appointed by the  
1773 speaker of the House of Representatives; (4) a representative of the  
1774 business community with experience in fund-raising, appointed by the  
1775 minority leader of the House of Representatives; (5) a representative of  
1776 the business community with experience in fund-raising, appointed by  
1777 the minority leader of the Senate; (6) a parent, appointed by the  
1778 majority leader of the House of Representatives; (7) a parent,  
1779 appointed by the majority leader of the Senate; (8) a parent, appointed  
1780 by the president pro tempore of the Senate; (9) a person with expertise  
1781 in child abuse prevention, appointed by the speaker of the House of  
1782 Representatives; (10) a person with expertise in child abuse prevention,  
1783 appointed by the minority leader of the House of Representatives; (11)  
1784 a staff member of a child abuse prevention program, appointed by the  
1785 minority leader of the Senate; (12) a staff member of a child abuse  
1786 prevention program, appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
1787 Representatives; and (13) a pediatrician, appointed by the majority  
1788 leader of the Senate. The council shall solicit and accept funds, on  
1789 behalf of the Children's Trust Fund, to be used for the prevention of  
1790 child abuse and neglect and family resource programs, [or on behalf of  
1791 the Parent Trust Fund, to be used for parent community involvement  
1792 to improve the health, safety and education of children,] and shall  
1793 make grants to programs pursuant to [subsections] subsection (a) [and  
1794 (c)] of this section.

1795 [(c) There is established a Parent Trust Fund which shall be used to  
1796 fund programs aimed at improving the health, safety and education of  
1797 children by training parents in civic leadership skills and supporting  
1798 increased, sustained, quality parental engagement in community  
1799 affairs. The fund shall receive federal or private money from grants  
1800 and gifts made pursuant to section 17a-18.]

1801        [(d)] (c) On or before July 1, 2010, and annually thereafter, the  
1802 Children's Trust Fund Council and the commissioner shall report, in  
1803 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, to the Governor and  
1804 the joint standing committees of the General Assembly having  
1805 cognizance of matters relating to human services, public health and  
1806 education concerning the source and amount of funds received by the  
1807 Children's Trust Fund, [and the Parent Trust Fund,] and the manner in  
1808 which such funds were administered and disbursed.

1809        Sec. 26. Section 17b-12 of the 2010 supplement to the general statutes  
1810 is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
1811 *from passage*):

1812        The Commissioner of Social Services may accept and receive, on  
1813 behalf of the Department of Social Services or on behalf of the  
1814 Children's Trust Fund [or the Parent Trust Fund] established pursuant  
1815 to section 17b-751, as amended by this act, any bequest or gift of  
1816 personal property for services for a person who is, or members of  
1817 whose immediate family are, receiving assistance or services from the  
1818 Department of Social Services, or both, or for services for a former or  
1819 potential recipient of assistance from the Department of Social Services  
1820 or for programs or services described in section 17b-751, as amended  
1821 by this act. Any federal funds generated by virtue of any such bequest  
1822 or gift may be used for the extension of services to such person or  
1823 family members.

1824        Sec. 27. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) There is established a Parent  
1825 Trust Fund, the resources of which shall be used by the Commissioner  
1826 of Education to fund programs aimed at improving the health, safety  
1827 and education of children by training parents in civic leadership skills  
1828 and supporting increased, sustained, quality parental engagement in  
1829 community affairs. The commissioner may accept on behalf of the fund  
1830 any federal funds or private grants or gifts made for purposes of this  
1831 section. The fund may receive state funds. The commissioner shall use  
1832 such funds to make grants to programs for purposes described in this  
1833 section.



1834       Sec. 28. (*Effective from passage*) The unexpended balance of funds in  
1835 the Parent Trust Fund, established under section 17b-751 of the general  
1836 statutes, revision of January 1, 2009, shall be transferred to the Parent  
1837 Trust Fund established under section 27 of this act.

1838       Sec. 29. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) A local or regional board of  
1839 education for a school district with a dropout rate of eight per cent or  
1840 greater in the previous school year, shall establish an online credit  
1841 recovery program. Such program shall allow those students who are  
1842 identified by certified personnel as in danger of failing to graduate to  
1843 complete on-line coursework approved by the local or regional board  
1844 of education for credit toward meeting the high school graduation  
1845 requirement pursuant to section 10-221a of the general statutes, as  
1846 amended by this act. Each school in the school district shall designate,  
1847 from among existing staff, an online learning coordinator who shall  
1848 administer and coordinate the online credit recovery program  
1849 pursuant to this section.

1850       Sec. 30. Subsection (f) of section 10-221 of the general statutes is  
1851 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
1852 *1, 2010*):

1853       (f) Not later than September 1, 1998, each local and regional board of  
1854 education shall develop, adopt and implement written policies and  
1855 procedures to encourage parent-teacher communication. These policies  
1856 and procedures may include monthly newsletters, required regular  
1857 contact with all parents, flexible parent-teacher conferences, drop-in  
1858 hours for parents, home visits and the use of technology such as  
1859 homework hot lines to allow parents to check on their children's  
1860 assignments and students to get assistance if needed. For the school  
1861 year commencing July 1, 2010, and each school year thereafter, such  
1862 policies and procedures shall require the district to conduct two  
1863 flexible parent-teacher conferences for each school year.

1864       Sec. 31. (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) There is established a task force to  
1865 study and monitor the academic achievement gap between racial and

1866 socioeconomic groups in Connecticut by considering effective  
1867 approaches to closing the achievement gap in elementary, middle and  
1868 high schools. The task force shall consider, but not be limited to, the  
1869 following: (1) Systematic education planning; (2) best practices in  
1870 public education; (3) professional development for teachers; and (4)  
1871 parental involvement in public education.

1872 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

1873 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

1874 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

1875 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of  
1876 Representatives;

1877 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

1878 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of  
1879 Representatives;

1880 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; and

1881 (7) The Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's designee.

1882 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),  
1883 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member  
1884 of the General Assembly.

1885 (d) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than  
1886 August 1, 2010, and shall reflect the geographic and cultural diversity  
1887 of the state and shall have experience in business, education and  
1888 philanthropic organizations. Any vacancy shall be filled by the  
1889 appointing authority.

1890 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president  
1891 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task  
1892 force, from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons  
1893 shall schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held no

1894 later than September 1, 2010.

1895 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the  
1896 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education  
1897 shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

1898 (g) Not later than January 1, 2011, the task force shall submit a  
1899 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing  
1900 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
1901 relating to education, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-  
1902 4a of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date  
1903 that it submits such report or January 1, 2011, whichever is later.

1904 Sec. 32. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2010*) (a) For the school year  
1905 commencing July 1, 2011, and each school year thereafter, each local  
1906 and regional board of education shall provide an advanced placement  
1907 course program. For purposes of this section, "advanced placement  
1908 course program" means a program that provides courses at the high  
1909 school level for which an advanced placement examination is available  
1910 through the College Board.

1911 (b) The State Board of Education shall develop guidelines to aid  
1912 local and regional boards of education in training teachers for teaching  
1913 advanced placement courses to a diverse student body."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-157
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-10a
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-151b
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-223e
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	9-185
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	10-183v
Sec. 10	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-151(a)

Sec. 11	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-66p
Sec. 12	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-66aa
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	10-66bb
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-66dd
Sec. 15	<i>from passage</i>	10-66hh
Sec. 16	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 17	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-221a
Sec. 18	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 19	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 20	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 21	<i>from passage</i>	10-233c(g)
Sec. 22	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-223e
Sec. 23	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 24	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 25	<i>from passage</i>	17b-751
Sec. 26	<i>from passage</i>	17b-12
Sec. 27	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 28	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 29	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 30	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	10-221(f)
Sec. 31	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section
Sec. 32	<i>July 1, 2010</i>	New section